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Message Text

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R 172018 Z APR 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PFOR, TH, US
SUBJ: SECRETARY' S FOREIGN POLICY REPORT
CINCPAC FOR POLAD
1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF THAILAND SECTION OF SECRETARY' S 1972 REPORT, TO BE RELEASED PUBLICLY ON APRIL 19, 1973.

QUOTE: THAILAND RETURNED TO CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN DECEMBER OF 1972. THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THAILAND CONTINUES TO BE BASED TO AN IMPORTANT EXTENT ON CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES AS REGARDS MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE VALUE THIS COOPERATION AS A KEY FACTOR IN THE EVOLUTION OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE HAVE AFFIRMED-- AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO STAND SOLIDLY BEHIND-- OUR SECURITY COMMITMENT TO THAILAND UNDER SEATO. COMPLEMENTING THIS, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SECURITY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THAILAND FOR USE IN THESE PROGRAMS WHICH THE THAI THEMSELVES CONSIDER HAVE PRIORITY. WE HAVE ALSO COLLABORATED TO SUPPORT INCREASINGLY EFFECTIVE THAI MEASURES TO SUPPRESS NARCOTICS TRAFFIC.

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MILITARY COOPERATION LOOMED LARGE IN OUR RELATIONSHIP IN 1972. AS PART OF OUR RESPONSE TO THE NORTH VIETNAMESE SPRING OFFENSIVE, ADDITIONAL U. S. FORCES WERE ASSIGNED, WITH THAI GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT, TO THAI AIR BASES, RAISING THE NUMBER OF MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM 32,200 TO ABOUT

45,000. THE NUMBER OF COMBAT MISSIONS FLOWN WAS COR-
RESPONAR OLD UN COMMITTEE ON
DISARMAMENT. REASON LITTLE ATTENTION WAS PAID, SAID COOK,

IS THAT NEVER AMONG THE DELEGATIONS-- EXCEPT SOVIET AND AMERICAN-- HAS THE SENSE OF BITTERNESS AND FRUSTRATION BEEN AS STRONG AS IT IS RIGHT NOW, NOR HAVE SIGNS OF PROGRESS BEEN SO FAINT- TO- INVISIBLE. COOK SEES EAST- WEST DETENTE PROGRESSING ON JUST ABOUT EVERY OTHER FRONT BUT GENEVA DISARMAMENT WHERE-- UNLIKE THE PAST-- THERE IS NOTHING UNDER WAY, EVEN MARGINALLY. COOK RECALLED TEST-BAN, HOTLINE, OUTER SPACE AND OTHER AGREEMENTS AND QUOTED ONE WESTERN DELEGATE WHO SAID WE USED TO HAVE AT LEAST AN ILLUSION OF PROGRESS, BUT NOT SO THIS SPRING, DELEGATE ADDING THERE HAD BEEN HOPE FOR SOME MOVE FROM WASHINGTON ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS, PARTICULARLY NOW THAT VIETNAM IS BEHIND YOU, BUT WITH THINGS THIS WAY WE ARE LIKELY TO FACE A FINE MESS IN UNGA THIS FALL. RE HOPES FOR BAN ON UNDERGROUND TESTING, COOK REPORTS THERE IS IN FACT NOW NO REAL SCIENTIFIC REASON WHY THE PRESENT STATE OF SEISMIC DETECTION COULD BE RELIED ON TO POLICE A BAN BUT NATIONAL INTERESTS BOTH IN US AND MORE ESPECIALLY IN RUSSIA STILL DICTATE THAT UNDERGROUND TESTING MUST GO ON, AND ALSO MOSCOW HAS SAID IN CURRENT ROUND OF DISARMAMENT TALKS THAT IT WILL NOT EVEN CONSIDER A COMPLETE TEST BAN UNLESS ALL NUCLEAR POWERS JOIN, BUT NEITHER CHINA NOR FRANCE IS READY
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TO DO SO. RE CHEMWAR, COOK SAYS THE HOPE IS US MIGHT COME UP WITH AN OFFER OF A TREATY TO BAN NERVE GAS, MUSTARD GAS, POISON GAS, DEFOLIANTS AND OTHER KILLERS FROM USE, MANUFACTURE OR STOCKPILING; COOK ADDED THIS IS READILY RECOGNIZED AS A RISK WHICH HAS TO BE TAKEN IF ANYTHING IS EVER TO BE PUT INTO TREATY FORM IN THIS FIELD BECAUSE IT IS TOTALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO DEVISE ANY INSPECTION AND CONTROL SYSTEM OVER THE PRODUCTION OF SUCH GASES. COOK SAYS RUSSIA HAS PROPOSED SUCH A SCOUTS- HONOR BAN ON CHEMICAL WEAPON
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